

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/GB2004/004440

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 B29C37/00 B29C39/10 B29C39/22

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 B29C

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	WO 98/58788 A (MOVEVIRGO LIMITED; FROST, IRA, NORMAN; WILKINSON, STEPHEN, JOHN) 30 December 1998 (1998-12-30)	1-22
X	the whole document	23
Y	EP 0 586 222 A (PLASTIC MOLD TECHNOLOGY INCORPORATED) 9 March 1994 (1994-03-09) column 3, line 45 - line 51 column 13, line 3 - line 7	1-4,6,7, 11-22
Y	EP 0 255 592 A (TENTE-ROLLEN GMBH & CO) 10 February 1988 (1988-02-10) column 1, line 23 - line 26 column 3, line 27 - line 31	1,4,6
Y	EP 1 229 259 A (DAIKIN INDUSTRIES, LTD) 7 August 2002 (2002-08-07) paragraphs '0065!, '0087! - '0089!	1,4,6
	-/-	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *G* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

9 February 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

28/02/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 4 124 676 A (HENZL ET AL) 7 November 1978 (1978-11-07) figures 2-4,7,8	1,4,6
Y	US 5 296 183 A (CARBONE ET AL) 22 March 1994 (1994-03-22) the whole document	1,4
Y	US 5 650 115 A (PROOS ET AL) 22 July 1997 (1997-07-22) claim 16	1,4,6,7
Y	US 4 963 413 A (AMANO ET AL) 16 October 1990 (1990-10-16) claim 3	1,5
Y	GB 2 077 786 A (ANTONINI MASSIMILIANO) 23 December 1981 (1981-12-23) the whole document	1,4,7
Y	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 010, no. 234 (M-507), 14 August 1986 (1986-08-14) -& JP 61 068229 A (HITACHI Zosen CORP), 8 April 1986 (1986-04-08) abstract	1,4,7
Y	US 6 372 078 B1 (MELCHERT RONNIE L ET AL) 16 April 2002 (2002-04-16) abstract	1,4,7
Y	WO 86/03164 A (VELCRO USA INC) 5 June 1986 (1986-06-05) abstract	1,7-9
Y	US 4 617 214 A (BILLARANT ET AL) 14 October 1986 (1986-10-14) the whole document	1,7-9
Y	US 4 881 997 A (HATCH ET AL) 21 November 1989 (1989-11-21) abstract	1,7-9
Y	FR 2 688 164 A (CHAIGNAUD SILAC) 10 September 1993 (1993-09-10) the whole document	1,7-10

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Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☒ Claims Nos.: 24, 25
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this International application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box II.2

Claims Nos.: 24,25

The claims 24 and 25 contains references to the description and / or the drawings. According to Rule 6.2(a) PCT, claims should not contain such references except where necessary, which is not the case here. Since claims 24 and claim 25 do not comprise any further features, the scope of said claims is therefore unclear (Article 6 PCT). As a result, a meaningful search can not be performed (Article 17 (2)(a)(ii) PCT).

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.5), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

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